



Image

RCE/641

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b>  Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).	<b>Application Number</b>	09/914,684
	<b>Filing Date</b>	01/10/2002
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Nelson et al.
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	1641
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	Davis, Deborah A.
	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	DDI-0037

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on  
(any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other

3. **Fees** - The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. **10-0750**.
- i. ☒ RCE fee is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of Time (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

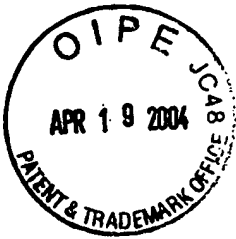
**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (print/type)	Mayumi Maeda	Registration No.	40,075
Signature		Date	7/1/04

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: **4-14-2004**

Name (print/type)	Jane Silarajs	Date	4-14-2004
Signature			



Docket No. DDI-0037

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Eric M. Nelson, et al.  
Serial No. : 09/914,684  
Filed : 01/10/2002  
Title : Method and Apparatus for Controlling the Adsorption of a Liquid Sample Through an Absorbent Layer  
Art Unit : 1641  
Examiner : Davis, Deborah A.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

4-14-2004

Jane Silarajs  
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

*Jane Silarajs*  
(Signature)

4-14-2004

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

REPLY

Extension of Time

Applicants hereby request an extension of time for Three (3) months from the original due date of January 20, 2004 to extend the time for reply to April 20, 2004. The required fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3) of \$950.00 is submitted herewith in an express request to charge said fees to Deposit Account No. 10-0750 (Docket DDI-0037/BES). (Form PTO/SB/17 Fee Transmittal is attached in duplicate). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 10-0750.

In response to the Final Office Action of October 20, 2003, please enter the following amendment and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

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01 FC:1801 ~~770.00 DA~~  
04/20/2004 JBALINAN 00000147 09914684  
02 FC:1253 950.00 DA